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LETTER DATED 3 JULY 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit a note verbale dated 19 April 1997 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq in Tehran.

It would be appreciated if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kamal KHARRAZI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

97-18718 (E) 070797

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Annex

Letter dated 19 April 1997 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq in Tehran

Relevant Iranian authorities have reported that Iraqi armed forces on board Iraqi boats and armed with combat weapons have recently begun certain operations against Iranian fishing boats and foreign vessels north of the Persian Gulf and in the Iranian territorial waters. These operations, which include shooting, looting equipment, fishing, and generally harassing Iranian fishermen, constitute an act of aggression and a clear violation of the term of the ceasefire between the two countries. They also reflect a lack of commitment to the principle of friendly and good neighbourly relations.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran expresses its strong objection to such actions and calls upon the Government of the Republic of Iraq to make necessary arrangements to prevent the continuation and recurrence of such actions, which are in violation of the rules and principles of international law.